(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to implement the above scheme in the interest of students; and

(e) if not, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e) Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) have first aid facilities. Moreover, KVs provide first-aid activities/training to the students in NSS/Scouts & Guides activities. Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVs) which are mostly located in rural areas, appoint a full time regular qualified staff nurse. Medical rooms are also available in permanent buildings of the NVs where first-aid facilities are available. Schools of State Governments are governed by their own rules/regulations.

Revision of guidelines for mid-day meal scheme

1959. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have revised the guidelines of the mid-day meal scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the existing nutritional norms were found to be inadequate to address the growing needs of children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Guidelines of revised MDM Scheme have been issued in September, 2006. The revised guidelines provide:

(i) Nutritional norm of 450 calories and 12 grams of protein.

(ii) Assistance for cooking cost as follows:

(a) States in North-Eastern Region @Rs. 1.80 per child per school day, provided the State Govt, contributes a minimum of 20 paise

(b) For Other State & UTs	@Rs. 1.50 per child per school day provided the State Govt./UT Admn. contributes a minimum of 50 paise

(iii) The revised guidelines reiterate the importance of convergence with other development programmes for construction of kitchen sheds. However, where convergence is not possible, assistance @ Rs. 60,000 per unit for construction of kitchen-cum-store and Rs. 5,000 per school for kitchen devices are provided.

(iv) Guidelines also provide for convergence with National Rural Health Mission for necessary interventions such as regular health checkup, supplementation of micronutrients ana de-worming medicines etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The above mentioned nutritional norms of mid-day meal is higher than the earlier stipulation of 300 calories and 8—12 grams of protein.

Fee structure of professional colleges

1950. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the professional colleges under private management are charging, officially or non-oificially, large amount of money for admitting students in some attractive courses of studies;

(b) whether Government have any plan to increase the number of seats and also the number of professional colleges to cater the needs to a greater possible extent; and

(c) the programme of Government in detail to save the deserving students from the hands of the education-marketeers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Matters concerning charging of fee is being administered by the concerned State Governments through the State level fee committees constituted by the States based on the directions of the Supreme court of India. The concerned